links would be established to facilitate easy contact between the border personnel. Views were exchanged on specific confidence-building measures including prior intimation of military exercises.

Full Fledged Diplomatic Recognition to Israel

1583. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN:
SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI JAGADISH JANI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give full fledged diplomatic recognition to Israel;

(b) if so, whether any modalities with regard to the opening of Indian Embassy in Israel and vice-versa have been completed; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof stating when an Indian Embassy in Tel Aviv is expected to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) India extended full defacto and dejure recognition to Israel on September 18, 1950. Diplomatic relations have also been established with effect from January 29, 1992.

(b) and (c) Israel has opened an Embassy in New Delhi headed by a Charge de Affairs. The preparations for opening an Indian Embassy in Tel Aviv are under way. It is expected to start functioning shortly.

Support of Russian Republics on the issue of Kashmir

1584. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia and other independent Republics of the earstwhile USSR have supported India on Kashmir. if so, in what terms each has enunciated their stand; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to educate and enlighten the people of these republics about India's stand on the issue?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) India has recently accorded recognition to the newly independent Republics of the former USSR and is in the process of establishing diplomatic relations with all of them. Nevertheless, every opportunity is being utilised to apprise the Governments and the peoples of these Republics of the Kashmir situation in its totality. The responses received so far are positive.

The Russian Federation have conveyed that their position on Kashmir remains the same as that of the former USSR.

1585. [*Transferred to the 18th March, 1992*].

Government's stand for Expansion of United Nations Security Council

1586. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: